

Maintaining Status

F-1 Students

Documents:

- Keep a valid passport
- Always have a valid i-94
- Be sure your i-20 program will not end before your program end date
 - o If it is, reach out to the international student services office to make sure the program date is adjusted to reflect the proper start and end dates
- If your major or degree is changing (including if you were an ELL student and are matriculating to become a degree-seeking student at SU), meet with the ISS Coordinator to alter your i-20

Employment:

- Do NOT work off campus without prior authorization
- Do NOT work on campus more than 20 hours per week while school is in session (excluding winter and summer breaks)

Travel:

- Have a Designated School Official sign your i-20 BEFORE traveling outside the U.S if you plan to return to your studies at SU
 - o A signature is valid for a full year (for example: if a DSO signed your i-20 in December 2017, you would not necessarily need to get a new signature until December 2018)
 - o It is recommended for you to get a signature every 6 months, but is not required
 - o If you get a new i-20 from the ISS Office, be sure to get a new signature on your form before traveling
 - o Follow US-VISIT border entry and exit procedures

Academics:

- Be enrolled in a full course load at SU (at least 12 credits) each semester unless granted PRIOR permission from the ISS Coordinator to be considered less than a full time student
- Online classes: if you are funded by a government or by a sponsorship, please be sure to ask your advisor first how many online classes you may take in one semester, or overall in your four (4) years of study at SU
- Get the approval of your ISS Coordinator to take classes at another university (including online classes) as well as the approval of the Registrar if the class(es) are going to count as credit towards a specific degree
- Inform your ISS Coordinator if you're planning to transfer to another school either for ELL or a four (4) year degree program

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General:

- If there is a change of address, please fill out the form in Terra Dotta (~Link: "Terra Dotta" to the TD change of address form)
- If there is a change in sponsorship, please schedule a time to meet with the International Student Services Coordinator
- If you receive an email from the International Student Services Coordinator, please read it and respond if needed
- Please make sure to keep all i-20's that are given to you. If you apply for OPT and other programs you will need all of your prior as well as your current i-20